



Dublin

June 10. 1865

I recd Mr May - I got your letter today - also  
a long & cheerful one from Richard written  
from Austin, Laramie County, Nevada which  
he wishes to be his address in future, as it will  
be much more centrally with Lone City, Nye Co.  
even if he should settle in the latter place, for  
it is on the way by the rails from San Fran-  
cisco to Lone and is a much larger & more civilized  
place & better known. He seems to be battling away  
trying to get out the land, and for one that enjoys  
civilized female society shows great persistence in  
subscribing to the prospect of a long banishment from  
both. I am sure I hope the poor fellow may succeed  
in the long run.

This 10<sup>th</sup> of June is Alfreds 31<sup>st</sup> birth day. If  
Richard wishes for the book you name of which I have  
devised him to write to you about, & if he thinks it  
can come safely I would not be particular about  
a trifles in the price of it. It may be that he will not  
want it at all - but he will be the best judge.

As to the animus of Wendell Phillips &c. in the  
present unwholesome debate, that is one consideration  
& the facts of the matter are another. Presford and I  
are to agree with your views because they are reasonable, &  
to place great confidence in the talents of Mr Chap-  
man, Mr Garrison & L. Quincy I cannot see that  
slavery is dead - or that the power of the Aristocracy



amendment will kill it effectually. Slavery will  
die hard. Congress may pass laws - but the people  
must carry them out. Who are the people to whom  
the execution of the law absolutely Slavery must be  
entrusted? Are they not the white ~~people~~ of the South  
who are by all the testimony I have seen, almost invariably  
hostile to the U.S. Government. How long are they  
are to be the administrators of the Government in the  
South that chance have the Slave or the free blacks of  
mercy or justice or of liberty. I see that President  
Johnson has told some colored people that he would  
have the decision of the Southern the negroes should have  
votes to the loyal whites as one at least of the States.  
Now if there are no loyal whites how are the loyal blacks  
likely to fare? It seems to me that there would have  
been an advantage in continuing your efforts as a  
society for the Standard in which says that the work is  
more completely accomplished - and that our efforts  
made would be more telling under the old organization  
& with the old funds than in any other way. As long  
as there is a numerically powerful proslavery party  
at the South the colored people north & South need all  
the countenance they can get & I fear, apart from  
them there is an immense number who double them  
and who yield to their circumstances rather than  
necessity than from a sense of justice. - Unfortunately  
I am not a sanguine body, so I may take a too  
gloomy view of the future & the "sullen submission" of  
the defeated but unconvinced Southerners may turn  
into humane abolitionists sooner than I anticipate.  
as to the withholding the resolution of thanks from  
Johnson & Sumner it was a pitiful blunder - but still it  
was ~~only~~ the blunder of ~~the~~ only the fact to be much  
thought of. I suppose some of those people were honest  
bigots & they cannot do much mischief. Still it is much



to be regretted that there should have been  
this unpleasantness at the end of such a  
long course of years of devoted heroic labors.

I could not have thought of troubling you with  
any of the pecuniary affairs of the Standard  
under its present management, and I have  
not been applied to in any way respecting it. I shall  
be very sorry when I cease to come for I have no  
means of obtaining such full & satisfactory informa-  
tion in any other way. I think P. Pillsbury recom-  
mended the Commonwealth as the best Anti Slavery  
paper but I was far from agreeing with him. Every  
paper & every book should be read with some reservation  
for the prejudices & prepossessions of the editor or author, &  
then I would be sure to keep in mind with such a man  
as Pillsbury who has a sombre way of looking at things &  
has probably been biased by domestic discomforts.

Still it seems very lamentable that between such  
a wonderfully gifted man as Phillips and Garrison, & many  
the Western & himself anything should have arisen to  
mar your long continued harmony. Certainly there were  
many incidents in the late President's early administra-  
tion to try the faith & patience of abolitionists. I often  
thought that you did not allow sufficiently for doubts  
& difficulties which disturbed us whilst you were plainly  
uneasy about them yourselves. You insisted on to have  
full faith that all would come right whilst you found  
it hard enough to believe. Then being so, I cannot  
wonder that some who see that the work is not  
finished refuse to be convinced & who refuse to resign  
and lay down their arms until they see full proof  
that the nation is repentant ~~and as to~~ towards  
the slave as well as victorious over the Lutherans.

I do not in the least wonder that Davis & Co have as  
poor a chance as you seem to think. They have played  
a tremendous game & lost it. They have caused a prodi-



from wants of life and property - they must have  
had it in their power to prevent the awful ~~the~~ man-  
der by cold & starvation of Union soldiers. I have  
nothing to say on their behalf. Still I do would rather  
they were not hanged, purely for the sake of the United  
States being able to show a glorious example to the rest  
of the world in this crisis. As to Lee he is as bad as  
the rest, but how can he be tried his murderers being  
accepted. I supposed that to try ~~Shaw~~ Lee & men  
would be contrary to the customs of civilized nations.  
I know that the Austrians hanged the Hungarian  
generals who ~~were~~ surrendered to the Russians in  
1849 - but the Americans are neither Austrians nor  
Russians. I am sure that if the Southern leaders had  
been such men as Windsor they behaved so treacher-  
ously & cruelly they had betrayed their trust in like  
manner they would have a poor chance - but then  
the Americans are likely to be more humane as a  
nation than the English under similar circum-  
stances. - Your Review was a grand affair - it is a  
great thing to have anticipated it. I found a full  
account in today's Merchants' Exchange from their  
correspondent. All the news that will come for some  
time to come will be full of interest. I wonder how  
it will fare with those haughty slaveholders. Was  
not Wade Hampton a very great slaveholder?

I have told you the name of the writer  
who signs himself X in the Advocate. He is a  
clever young man, both his two brothers, have  
become an enthusiastic partisans of the South  
& the great friend of his mother, a very bright &  
gifted woman who is a subscriber to the Standard  
and my most intimate home correspondent &  
friend.





I have been exceedingly puzzled by the tendency  
of the sympathy of well educated & well informed  
young men towards the South. Their success & the  
value of the work had something attractive I  
suppose at the outset & thus their sympathy  
was secured. I never felt an atom of this  
- but have not young. Still I am amazed  
that the open undignified weakness & failures  
of the Southern agents did not keep all gene-  
ral minds from looking towards them. That the  
opponents should have worshipped success is  
no wonder. Yet I wonder how many of a dif-  
ferent class have gone heart & soul with the  
South. Still it is true that in public meetings  
the maps of the heaven have been for the  
North & the South. Dr. Harnes declared he thought  
he was in New York he was so clapped & cheered  
when he mentioned the name of Sherman.  
It was very remarkably how preponderant the  
Southern feeling was. I remember that a late Speer-  
tator remarked what I have repeatedly noticed  
- that the Southern agents at the outset were  
wonderfully active, and successful in bringing  
up or coming over in numbers & others, the  
agents which influence public opinion in  
these countries. But why so was the ground so  
often.



I am truly sorry to learn that you are  
so poorly. How rejoiced I would be if  
you could come over for the benefit of  
your health & then we should have such  
talks together. I heard some talk of  
W. L. G. coming. Is it true if he comes,  
will you let him know beforehand. Miss  
Cotton is very desirous to know.

You speak of your son being unwell.  
I know what an anxious matter this is,  
having Richard still so long abroad in the  
world without any certainty of a  
settlement.

Yours ever affectionately

Richd D Webb

I think I will write a while to the  
Rebellion Record is finished. Alfred  
desires me to say how much obliged  
to you for the Castles. He is "soured on  
the goose" who now also may go astray.